a mechanism for the return of unintentionally transgressing fishermen and their boats from the high seas without apprehending them. This issue was also raised during the meeting between the Foreign Ministers of the two countries in New Delhi on September 5-6, 2004, and again during the visit of the Prime Minister of Pakistan to New Delhi on November 23-24, 2004.

India, on October 22, 2003, had proposed establishment of communication links between the Indian Coast Guards and Pakistan Maritime Security Agency which would deal, *inter alia,* with the issue of transgressing fishermen on both sides. During the meeting between the Coast Guard authorities of the two countries on December 3-4, 2004 in New Delhi, both sides also discussed issues related to repatriation of apprehended fishermen, including through a Memorandum of Understanding which is presently under discussion.

**International conference on U.N. organished by I.C.W.A.**

2287. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Council of World Affairs had organized an International Conference on U.N. and the New World Order in 1994 in which delegates from a large number of countries had participated;

(b) if so, the number of delegates and what financial assistance was given to I.C.W.A. for organizing the conference;

(c) the recommendations made by the Conference and whether the recommendations were accepted by Government and implemented; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Yes Sir, the Indian Council of World Affairs had organized an International Conference on U.N. and the New World Order from 24-26 August, 1994.

(b) The Conference was attended by 82 delegates from 73 countries and 82 delegates from India. The Indian Council of World Affairs financed the Conference from its own resources.

(c) and (d) The Conference unanimously adopted the 'Delhi Declaration, 1994' which was presented in person by the then President of ICWA to the Secretary General of the United Nations, H.E. Mr. Boutros Boutros Ghali. The Conference Report and the 'Delhi Declaration, 1994' were also sent to the Minister of State for External Affairs, Members of Parliament and the delegates who participated in the Conference.

**Opening of new passport offices**

2288. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have asked the Central Government to open new passport offices in their respective status; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government of Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal have requested Government of India to open Passport Offices in their respective States. There is already a Passport Application Collection Centre (PACC) in Shimla in Himachal Pradesh. However, due to various constraints, Government is not in a position to open more Passport Offices at present.

**Easing of Emigration rule**

2289. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are proposing to easing the emigration rules by including "SSLC qualification" under the "Emigration Clearance Not Required" (ECNR) category;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to adopt to exercise strict control over unauthorized entry of Indian passport holders, especially through India-based unscrupulous agents, thereby causing untold misery on prospective job-seekers abroad, especially in middle east; and

(c) the number of such cases of illegal Indian emigrants who have been repatriated to India, after the foreign countries convicted such Indian passport holders, during 1st July 2003 to 30th June 2004?